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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Cooperation and coordination of the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations in their assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

CONTENTS

Page

REPLIES FROM THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FORMING PART OF OR ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization 2

* A/48/50.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]

[20 July 1993]

1. Activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Non-Self-Governing Territories have been undertaken mainly in the areas of education, culture and communication.

A. Education

Montserrat

2. Montserrat is not a State member or associate member of UNESCO and no application for membership in the organization has been made. Nevertheless, there is interest on the part of the Territory in joining UNESCO, preferably on the same basis as the British Virgin Islands. However, this can only be done through and with the support of the British Government.

3. UNESCO/CARNEID* have continued cooperation with Montserrat. That country has participated fully in meetings, including the recently held Sixth Regional Consultation Meeting of CARNEID.

4. Current activities: a contract has been signed with the Ministry of Education for the development of a cultural kit in Montserrat to facilitate use of cultural material in classroom instruction as appropriate.

Cayman Islands

5. The Cayman Islands is not an active participant in UNESCO/CARNEID activities. However, this is likely to change soon, as the Ministry of Education has expressed an interest in joining the Network. The Chief Education Officer participated in the Sixth Regional Consultation Meeting of the CARNEID Network, held recently in Trinidad and Tobago.

British Virgin Islands

6. The British Virgin Islands is an associate member of the organization, and as such is entitled to full participation, not only in CARNEID activities but in UNESCO programmes. Programmes are ongoing in the areas of cultural tourism, educational management training and for the establishment of a UNESCO national commission.

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* Caribbean Network of Educational Innovation for Development (Bridgetown).

Turks and Caicos Islands

7. Like the Cayman Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands is not an active participant in UNESCO activities in the region. However, the Chief Education Officer participated in the Sixth Regional Consultation Meeting of the CARNEID Network.

Extrabudgetary activities

8. A primary education project, funded by the British Development Division in the Caribbean and implemented through CARNEID seeks to improve teaching in aspects of primary education in the British Dependencies.

Schools' Drug Education Project of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

9. The Eastern Caribbean Schools' Drug Education Project is a demand reduction initiative by UNESCO/CARNEID to develop a comprehensive drug prevention programme for secondary schools in the Eastern Caribbean.

10. The projects has received major funding support from the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and project activities have been designed to strengthen the education systems in 10 Eastern Caribbean Territories for the delivery of a preventive drug education programme. Montserrat and Anguilla are two of the participating Territories.

11. Assistance to Montserrat and Anguilla. Through the project activities, selected education personnel have been trained in:

(a) Management and planning skills to enable the organization and coordination of school-based preventive programmes;

(b) Development of curriculum modules for preventive drug education;

(c) Development of relevant student-centred instructional materials that facilitate the infusion of preventive education into the range of secondary level curriculum subject areas;

(d) Sensitizing parents/guardians to early identification signs of children on drugs and some parenting skills to promote better parent/child relationships;

(e) Peer counselling skills to effect the establishment of peer sharing groups as a preventive strategy in their schools.

12. Assistance to the Turks and Caicos Islands. Training of designated education project directors to initiate the process of developing an appropriate curriculum for preventive drug education.

Tokelau

13. During the 1988/89 ($10,000) and 1990/91 ($7,000) bienniums, UNESCO funded through the Participation Programme a Radio Broadcasting Feasibility Study for

Tokelau. The study was conducted in two parts - a "transmission study" and a "studio facilities study". Although the $17,000 funding was split between two bienniums, the actual studies were conducted in February and November 1991. The Participation Programme funding was provided to the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO.

B. Culture

Anguilla

14. A feasibility study was undertaken on tourism development for historical sites.

Cayman Islands

15. Development of a national museum.

C. Communication

16. In the Pacific, contact and cooperation with Non-Self-Governing Territories have been sporadic and relatively minor in the past 20 years, and mainly through regional offices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) or under the auspices of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Through UNDP, UNESCO cooperated on communication development projects in Western Samoa, Kiribati and Tuvalu before they became States Members of the United Nations and members of UNESCO; under the auspices of UNDP and ESCAP, broadcasting training was provided under the UNESCO/IPDC/FES project PACBROAD 1984-1987 to the islands of the Federated States of Micronesia (Ponape, Palau, Marianas). In cooperation with the UNESCO National Commission of New Zealand, the UNESCO Office at Apia organized a preparatory mission to set up Tokelau's first frequency modulation (FM) radio station in 1991-1992. Aside from these cases, several other non-self-governing islands benefited from UNESCO regional projects in broadcasting, journalism and video training.

17. In the Caribbean, UNDP has also been active with UNESCO in promoting assistance in communication development in the Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands, where short-term broadcasting trainers have been posted and some equipment donated.

18. Experience has shown that these countries greatly appreciate the cooperation available, though sporadic and tenuous. It is likely that they would welcome a more active role by UNDP and the specialized agencies in attending to their development needs, particularly island States, in view of the upcoming Global Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to be held in Barbados in 1994 (which may provide a strong forum for their voices). The UNESCO intersectoral monograph, currently under preparation, would be a most useful reference document and should perhaps be circulated, when finalized, to all relevant UNDP, ESCAP and other offices.